

Figure 2.52

## Bowen Geographic Area






10,653 NFS Acres    0 Non-NFS Acres    10,653 Total Acres

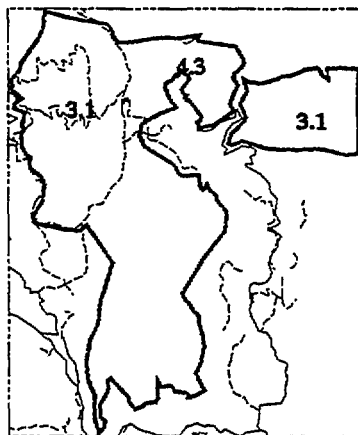
### Management Area Prescription Allocation

3.1 - Special Interest Areas - Emphasizing Use or Interpretation  
4.3 - Dispersed Recreation

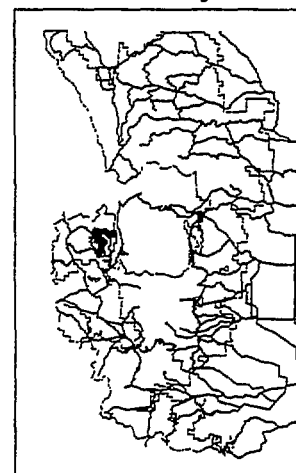
NFS Acres  
10,652  
1

### Legend

-  Not NFS Lands
-  Roads
-  Trails
-  Utility Corridors (0.00 Mi.)
-  Electronic Sites



Locator Map



Scale 1:200,000  
0 1  
Miles



## BOWEN GEOGRAPHIC AREA

### Setting

The area is located approximately 6 miles northwest of the Town of Grand Lake and adjacent to both the Never Summer Wilderness and Rocky Mountain National Park. The area includes 10,649 acres with no private inholdings, and has been designed as the Bowen Gulch Protection Area. Elevations range from 11,686 feet on Blue Ridge to 8,806 feet near the Colorado River. Most of the area is forested with lodgepole pine, subalpine fir, Engelmann spruce, and aspen. Alpine meadows occur on Blue Ridge. A large portion of the geographic area includes one of the best examples of the spruce-fir, old-growth ecosystem on the Arapaho National Forest. The major streams in the area include the headwaters of Bowen Gulch, North, South, and Middle Supply, and Stillwater Creeks. There are no lakes.

The northwest portion of the area contains a portion of the Bowen Gulch Research Natural Area.

### Goals and Desired Conditions

Manage the Bowen Geographic Area as a designated Protection Area to retain its pristine nature. Manage the area for moderate to heavy, winter motorized, and summer mountain-bike use. No summer motorized use is permitted. Manage the Bowen Gulch Interpretive Trail for pedestrian use only. Limit trail construction to re-routing existing trails for resource protection.

Timber harvest will not occur except in the case of fire or a major insect or disease outbreak. Accept insect and disease losses unless they threaten other ownership or cause unacceptable resource damage.

The northwest part of the geographic area contains a portion of the Bowen Gulch Research Natural Area (RNA). As this portion of the RNA is within the Bowen Protection Area, it must allow the use of snowmobiles and mountain bikes, as provided by law.

Acquire lands between Bowen Protection Area and Rocky Mountain National Park to enhance dispersed recreational activities, protect visual corridors, maintain wildlife habitat, and provide trail access.

Fire management prescriptions for the geographic area are shown on the *wildland fire management strategy map* included with this document.

**Travel Management Strategy, Bowen Geographic Area**

Management Area	Mode	Existing System	Convert Ways	New Rds/Trls	Extent of Additions	Extent of Obliterations
3.1	4WD	N	N	N	N	L
	MTR	N	N	N	N	N
	WMT	Y	N	N	N	N
	WNM	Y	N	N	N	N
	NMT	Y	Y	N	L	N
4.3	4WD	N	N	N	N	N
	MTR	N	N	N	N	N
	WMT	N	N	N	N	N
	WNM	N	N	N	N	N
	NMT	N	N	N	N	N

